

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/C:RKATES:LM

APPROVED BY:AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

-----232004Z 098210 /47

R 231859Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092273

FOR AMBASSADOR FOR INFO ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT LIBREVILLE 0978 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
KINSHASA PARIS USUN NY DATED APR 18:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0978

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CF, GB, US

SUBJ: CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE REPORTEDLY SEEKING NEW TIES
WITH US

SUMMARY: GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO REPORTS THAT GOCB STRONGLY
WISHES RE-ESTABLISH TIES WITH USG AND IS LIKELY TAKE INITIA-
TIVE SHORTLY TO THIS END. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MEETING APRIL 18, PRESIDENT BONGO REPORTED THAT HE
HAD RECEIVED VISIT FROM GOCB AMBASSADOR TO UN MONDJO
(PHONETIC), WHO REITERATED TO HIM STRONG GOCB DESIRE IMPROVE
RELATIONSWITH US.BONGO SAID HE HAS ALSO DISCUSSED SUBJECT
IN CLP

IYS WITH NEW CONGO/B CHIEF OF STATE YHOMBY,
TELLING LATTER THAT GABON IS PREPARED TO HELP SO LONG AS
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GOCB WILL COMMIT ITSELF NOT TO UNDERMINE GABONESE EFFORTS
BY CASUAL ATTACKS ON US POLICY. ACCORDING BONGO, HE HAS
NOW RECEIVED CONFIRMING LETTER FROM YHOMBY CONTAINING
ASSURANCES THAT GOCB WILL BEHAVE CIR-
CUMSPECTLY IN THIS REGARD,
AND EVIDENTLY IMPLYING THAT CONGOLESE WILL MAKE
APPROACH IN NEAR FUTURE TO USG.

2. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, BONGO CONFIRMED STORIES CIRCULATING ELSEWHERE THAT HE HAD ADVISED GOCB "COMMITTEE OF ELEVEN" FOLLOWING DEATH OF NGOUABI TO CHOOSE YHOMBY RATHER THAN SASSOU AS CHIEF OF STATE. BONGO DESCRIBED LATTER AS YOUNGER AND MORE IDEOLOGICALLY INCLINED THAN YHOMBY, AND SAID HE HAD TOLD CONGOLESE THAT YHOMBY WOULD INSPIRE GREATER CONFIDENCE ON PART OF WESTERN STATES TO WHICH THEY WERE LOOKING FOR ECONOMIC HELP. PRESIDENT ADDED PARENTHETICALLY THAT YHOMBY IS ACCUSED OF BEING CAPITALIST INTERESTED ONLY IN MONEY AND SASSOU HAS MADE ENEMIES BY CHASING WRONG WOMEN, IMPLYING THAT NEITHER INSPIRES GREAT CONFIDENCE. BONGO CONCLUDED THAT SASSOU IS CURRENTLY BEING PROTECTED BY CUBAN DETACHMENT WHILE YHOMBY IS RELYING ON CONGOLESE MEMBERS OF PRESIDENTIAL GUARD, SITUATION WHICH CONTAINS SEEDS OF POTENTIAL FUTURE INSTABILITY.

3. COMMENT: BONGO GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE IS PLANNING NEW INITIATIVES WITH USG ON BEHALF OF CONGOLESE, WHOM HE EVIDENTLY EXPECTS TO MAKE APPROACHES ON THEIR OWN. STEIGMAN UNQTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE092273
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/C:RKATES:LM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770142-1100
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770425/aaaaavmg.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cce716a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2712471
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE REPORTEDLY SEEKING NEW TIES WITH US SUMMARY: GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO REPORTS THAT GOC
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, GB, US, CF, (BONGO, MARTIN)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cce716a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009